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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: Fortuna, Ana M.

Docket: NI 156-SEE

Applicant(s): Wolfgang Albrecht
Serial No.: 10/662166
Filing Date: 08/Sep/03

Art Unit: 1723

Title: FUNCTIONALIZED POLYIMIDE MOLDED BODY AND
FUNCTIONALIZED POLYIMIDE MEMBRANECommissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
FAX 571 273 8300 – 3 pages

November 11, 2006

SIR:

Supplemental Response

This is in response to the Examiner's communication dated 10/18/06, in which the Examiner points out that she has maintained the rejection of claims 1 – 5 over Linder et al. (US 5 049 282) discussed in the paper of 07/08/04, but Applicant has not responded to this rejection. The oversight is regretted. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the reminder.

Below are the inventors comments concerning US 5 049 282 – Linder et al.

The Examiner states that Linder teaches a covalent bond as preferred cross-link and that a combination of salts with the amine compound to generate the covalent bond is also disclosed (column 5, lines 5 – 21, column 8, lines 34 – 49, column 9, lines 43 – 68, and column 10, lines 1 – 6).

It is alleged in that an amine modifier (monomer or polymer and of aromatic or preferably aliphatic nature such as for example polyethylene imine) in accordance with the procedure described in Linder can be covalently bonded to a membrane substrate and that this is the same as claimed in the present application. It is not noted that this modifier must contain pri-